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A

NARRATIVE

OF THE

Captivity, Sufferings, and Removes,

OF

Mrs. *Mary Rowlandſon*,

Who was taken Priſoner by the *Indians;* with ſeveral others; and treated in the moſt barbarous and cruel Manner by thoſe vile *Savages:* With many other remarkable Events during her Travels.

Written by her own Hand, for her private Uſe, and ſince made public at the earneſt Deſire of ſome Friends, and for the Benefit of the Afflicted.

BOSTON:
Re-printed and ſold by THOMAS and JOHN FLEET, at the *Bible* and *Heart*, Cornhill, 1791.

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A

NARRATIVE

OF THE

Captivity and Removes

OF

Mrs. *Mary Rowlandson.*

ON the 10th of *February*, 1675, came the *Indians* with great numbers upon *Lancaster*: their first coming was about sun-rising; hearing the noise of some guns, we looked out: several houses were burning, and the smoke ascending to heaven. There were five persons taken in one house, the father and mother, and a sucking child they knocked on the head, the other two they took and carried away alive. There were two others, who being out of their garrison upon occasion, were set upon; one was knocked on the head, the other escaped: Another there was who running along was shot and wounded, and fell down; he begged of them his life, promising them money (as they told me) but they would not hearken to him, but knocked him on the head, stript him naked, and split open his bowels. Another seeing many of the *Indians* about his barn, ventur'd and went out, but was quickly shot down. There were three others belonging to the same garrison who were killed; the *Indians* getting up upon the roof of the barn, had advantage to shoot down upon them over their fortification. Thus these murtherous wretches went on burning & destroying all before them.

At length they came and beset our house, and quickly it was the dolefuleſt day that ever mine eyes saw. The house stood upon the edge of a hill; some of the *Indians* got behind the hill, others into the barn, and others behind any thing that would shelter them; from all which places they shot against the house, so that the bullets seemed to fly like hail, and quickly they wounded one man among us, then another, and then a third. About two hours (according to my observation in that amazing time) they had been

about

about the houſe before they prevail'd to fire it, (which they did with flax and hemp which they brought out of the barn, and there being no defence about the houſe, only two flankers at two oppoſite corners, and one of them not finiſhed) they fired it once, and one ventured out and quenched it, but they quickly fired it again, and that took. Now is the dreadful hour come, that I have often heard of (in time of the war, as it was the caſe of others) but now mine eyes ſee it. Some in our houſe were fighting for their lives, others wallowing in blood, the houſe on fire over our heads, and the bloody heathen ready to knock us on the head if we ſtirred out. Now might we hear mothers and children crying out for themſelves and one onother, *Lord, what ſhall we do!* Then I took my children (and one of my ſiſters her's) to go forth and leave the houſe: but as ſoon as we came to the door, and appear'd, the *Indians* ſhot ſo thick, that the bullets rattled againſt the houſe, as if one had taken a handful of ſtones and threw them, ſo that we were forced to give back. We had ſix ſtout dogs belonging to our garriſon, but none of them would ſtir, though at another time, if an *Indian* had come to the door, they were ready to fly upon him and tear him down. The Lord hereby would make us the more to acknowledge his hand, and to ſee that our help is always in him. But out we muſt go, the fire increaſing, and coming along behind us roaring, and the *Indians* gaping before us with their guns, ſpears, and hatchets to devour us. No ſooner were we out of the houſe, but my brother-in-law (being before wounded in defending the houſe, in or near the throat) fell down dead, whereat the *Indians* ſcornfully ſhouted and hallowed, and were preſently upon him, ſtripping off his cloaths. The bullets flying thick, one went through my ſide, and the ſame (as would ſeem) through the bowels and hand of my poor child in my arms. One of my elder ſiſter's children (named *William*) had then his leg broke, which the *Indians* perceiving, they knocked him on the head. Thus were we butchered by thoſe mercileſs heathens, ſtanding amazed, with the blood running down to our heels. My eldeſt ſiſter being yet in the houſe, and ſeeing thoſe woeful ſights, the infidels hailing mothers one way and children another, and ſome wallowing in their blood: And her eldeſt ſon telling her that her ſon *William* was dead, and myſelf was wounded, ſhe ſaid, and *Lord let me die with them*: which was no ſooner ſaid, but ſhe was ſtruck with a bullet, and fell down dead over the threſhold. I hope ſhe is reaping the fruit of her good labours, being faithful to the ſervice of God in her place. In her younger years ſhe lay under much trouble upon ſpiritual accounts, till it pleaſed God to make that precious ſcripture take hold of her heart, 2 *Cor.* 12. 9. *And he ſaid unto me, My grace is ſufficient for thee.*

More

More than twenty years after, I have heard her tell how ſweet and comfortable that place was to her. But to return; The *Indians* laid hold of us, pulling me one way, and the children another, and ſaid, *Come, go along with us*: I told them they would kill me; they anſwered, *If I were willing to go along with them, they would not hurt me.*

Oh! the doleful ſight that now was to behold at this houſe! Come behold the works of the Lord, what deſolations he has made in the earth. Of thirty-ſeven perſons who were in this one houſe, none eſcaped either preſent death, or a bitter captivity, ſave only one, who might ſay as in *Job* 1, 15. *And I only am eſcaped alone to tell the news.* There were twelve killed, ſome ſhot, ſome ſtabbed with their ſpears, ſome knocked down with their hatchets. When we are in proſperity, Oh the little that we think of ſuch dreadful ſights, to ſee our dear friends and relations lie bleeding out their hearts-blood upon the ground. There was one who was chopt in the head with a hatchet, and ſtript naked, and yet was crawling up and down. It was a ſolemn ſight to ſee ſo many chriſtians lying in their blood, ſome here and ſome there, like a company of ſheep torn by wolves. All of them ſtript naked by a company of hell-hounds, roaring, ſinging, ranting and inſulting, as if they would have torn our very hearts out; yet the Lord by his almighty power, preſerved a number of us from death, for there were twenty-four of us taken alive and carried captive.

I had often before this ſaid, that if the *Indians* ſhould come, I ſhould chuſe rather to be killed by them, than taken alive: but when it came to the trial, my mind changed; their glittering weapons ſo daunted my ſpirit, that I choſe rather to go along with thoſe (as I may ſay) ravenous bears, than that moment to end my days. And that I may the better declare what happened to me during that grievous captivity, I ſhall particularly ſpeak of the ſeveral Removes we had up and down the wilderneſs.

The firſt Remove.

NOW away we muſt go with thoſe barbarous creatures, with our bodies wounded and bleeding, and our hearts no leſs than our bodies. About a mile we went that night, up upon a hill within ſight of the town, where we intended to lodge. There was hard by a vacant houſe (deſerted by the *Engliſh* before, for fear of the *Indians*) I aſked them whether I might not lodge in the houſe that night? to which they anſwered, What, will you love *Engliſhmen* ſtill? This was the dolefuleſt night that ever my eyes ſaw. Oh the roaring, and ſinging, and dancing, and yelling of

thoſe

those black creatures in the night, which made the place a lively resemblance of hell: And miserable was the waste that was there made, of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, calves, lambs, roasting pigs and fowls (which they had plundered in the town) some roasting, some lying and burning, and some boiling, to feed our merciless enemies: who were joyful enough, though we were disconsolate. To add to the dolefulness of the former day, and the dismalness of the present night, my thoughts ran upon my losses and sad bereaved condition. All was gone, my husband gone, (at least separated from me, he being in the *Bay*; and to add to my grief, the *Indians* told me they would kill him as he came homeward) my children gone, my relations and friends gone: our house and home, and all our comforts within door and without, all was gone (except my life) and I knew not but the next moment that might go too.

There remained nothing to me but one poor wounded babe, and it seemed at present worse than death, that it was in such a pitiful condition, bespeaking compassion, and I had no refreshing for it, nor suitable things to revive it. Little do many think what is the savageness and brutishness of this barbarous enemy, those even that seem to profess more than others among them, when the *English* have fallen into their hands.

Those seven that were killed at *Lancaster* the summer before upon a sabbath day, and the one that was afterward killed upon a week day, were slain and mangled in a barbarous manner, by one-ey'd *John*, and *Marlborough*'s praying *Indians*, which Capt. *Mosely* brought to *Boston*, as the *Indians* told me.

The Second Remove.

BUT now (the next morning) I must turn my back upon the town, and travel with them into the vast and desolate wilderness, I know not whither. It is not my tongue or pen can express the sorrows of my heart, and bitterness of my spirit, that I had at this departure: But God was with me in a wonderful manner, carrying me along, and bearing up my spirit, that it did not quite fail. One of the *Indians* carried my poor wounded babe upon a horse; it went moaning all along, *I shall die, I shall die.* I went on foot after it, with sorrow that cannot be expressed. At length I took it off the horse, and carried it in my arms till my strength failed, and I fell down with it. Then they set me upon a horse, with my wounded child in my lap, and there being no furniture upon the horse's back, as we were going down a steep hill, we both fell over the horse's head, at which they like inhuman creatures

tures laughed, and rejoiced to see it, though I thought we should there have ended our days, overcome with so many difficulties. But the Lord renewed my strength still, and carry'd me along, that I might see more of his power, yea so much that I could never have thought of, had I not experienced it.

After this it quickly began to snow, and when night came on, they stopt: and now down I must sit in the snow, by a little fire, and a few boughs behind me, with my sick child in my lap, and calling much for water, being now (through the wound) fallen into a violent fever. My own wound also growing so stiff, that I could scarce sit down or rise up, yet so it must be, that I must sit all this cold winter night, upon the cold snowy ground, with my sick child in my arms, looking that every hour would be the last of its life; and having no christian friend near me, either to comfort or help me. Oh I may see the wonderful power of God, that my spirit did not utterly sink under my affliction; still the Lord upheld me with his gracious and merciful spirit, and we were both alive to see the light of the next morning.

The third Remove.

THE morning being come, they prepared to go on their way, one of the *Indians* got upon a horse, and they sat me up behind him, with my poor sick babe in my lap. A very wearisome and tedious day I had of it; what with my own wound, and my child being so exceeding sick, and in a lamentable condition with her wound, it may easily be judged what a poor feeble condition we were in, there being not the least crumb of refreshing that came within either of our mouths from *Wednesday* night to *Saturday* night, except only a little cold water. This day in the afternoon, about an hour by sun, we came to the place where they intended, *viz.* an *Indian* town called *Wenimesset*, northward of *Quabaug*. When we were come, Oh the number of *Pagans* (now merciless enemies) that there came about me, that I may say as *David*, P. 27. 13, *I had fainted, unless I had believed*, &c. The next day was the sabbath: I then remembered how careless I had been of Gods holy time: how many sabbaths I had lost and misspent, and how evilly I had walked in God's sight; which lay so close upon my spirit, that it was easy for me to see how righteous it was with God to cut off the thread of my life, and cast me out of his presence forever. Yet the Lord still shewed mercy to me, and helped me; and as he wounded me with one hand, so he healed me with the other. This day there came to me one *Robert Pepper* (a man belonging to *Roxbury*) who was taken at Capt. *Beers*'s fight; and had been now a considerable time with the *Indians*, and up with them

them almoſt as far as *Albany*, to ſee King *Philip*, as he told me, and was now very lately come with them into theſe parts. Hearing, I ſay, that I was in this *Indian* town, he obtained leave to come and ſee me. He told me he himſelf was wounded in the leg, at Capt. *Beers*'s fight; and was not able ſome time to go, but as they carried him, and that he took oak leaves and laid to his wound, and by the bleſſing of God, he was able to travel again. Then took I oak leaves and laid to my ſide, and with the bleſſing of God, it cured me alſo; yet before the cure was wrought, I may ſay as it is in *Pſal.* 38. 5, 6. *My wounds ſtink and are corrupt, I am troubled, I am bowed down greatly, I go mourning all the day long.* I ſat much alone with my poor wounded child in my lap, which moaned night and day, having nothing to revive the body, or chear the ſpirits of her; but inſtead of that, one *Indian* would come and tell me one hour, your maſter will knock your child on the head, and then a ſecond, and then a third, your maſter will quickly knock your child on the head.

This was the comfort I had from them; miſerable comforters were they all. Thus nine days I ſat upon my knees, with my babe in my lap, till my fleſh was raw again. My child being even ready to depart this ſorrowful world, they bid me carry it out to another wigwam: (I ſuppoſe becauſe they would not be troubled with ſuch ſpectacles) whither I went with a very heavy heart, and down I ſat with the picture of death in my lap. About two hours in the night, my ſweet babe like a lamb departed this life, on *Feb.* 18. 1675, it being about ſix years and five months old. It was nine days from the firſt wounding, in this miſerable condition, without any refreſhing of one nature or another, except a little cold water. I cannot but take notice, how at another time I could not bear to be in a room where a dead perſon was, but now the caſe is changed; I muſt and could lie down with my dead babe all the night after. I have thought ſince of the wonderful goodneſs of God to me, in preſerving me ſo in the uſe of my reaſon and ſenſes, in that diſtreſſed time, that I did not uſe wicked and violent means to end my own miſerable life. In the morning, when they underſtood that my child was dead, they ſent me home to my maſter's wigwam: (By my maſter in this writing, muſt be underſtood *Quannopin*, who was a Saggamore, and married King *Philip*'s wife's ſiſter; not that he firſt took me, but I was ſold to him by a *Narraganſet Indian*, who took me when I firſt came out of the garriſon) I went to take up my dead child in my arms to carry it with me, but they bid me let it alone: There was no reſiſting, but go I muſt, and leave it. When I had been awhile at my maſter's wigwam, I took the firſt opportunity I could get, to go look after my dead child: When I came I

aſked

asked them what they had done with it? they told me it was on the hill; then they went and shewed me where it was, where I saw the ground was newly digged, and where they told me they had buried it; there I left that child in the wilderness, and must commit it and my self also in this wilderness condition, to him who is above all. God having taken away this dear child, I went to see my daughter *Mary*, who was at the same *Indian* town, at a wigwam not very far off, though we had little liberty or opportunity to see one another; she was about ten years old, and taken from the door at first by a praying *Indian*, and afterwards sold for a gun. When I came in sight she would fall a weeping, at which they were provoked, and would not let me come near her, but bid me be gone; which was a heart-cutting word to me. I had one child dead, another in the wilderness, I knew not where. the third they would not let me come near to; *Me* (as he said) *have ye bereaved of my children, Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and ye will take Benjamin also, all these things are against me* I could not sit still in this condition, but kept walking from one place to another. And as I was going along, my heart was even overwhelmed with the thoughts of my condition, and that I should have children, and a nation that I knew not ruled over them. Whereupon I earnestly entreated the Lord that he would consider my low estate, and shew me a token for good, and if it were his blessed will, some sign and hope of some relief. And indeed quickly the Lord answered in some measure, my poor prayer: For as I was going up and down mourning and lamenting my condition, my son came to me and asked me how did? I had not seen him before since the destruction of the town; and I knew not where he was, till I was informed by himself, that he was amongst a smaller parcel of *Indians*, whose place was about six miles off, with tears in his eyes he asked me whether his sister *Sarah* was dead? and told me he had seen his sister *Mary*; and prayed me, that I would not be troubled in reference to himself. The occasion of his coming to see me at this time was this; There was, as I said, about six miles from us a small plantation of *Indians*, where it seems he had been during his captivity; and at this time, there were some forces of the *Indians* gathered out of our company, and some also from them (amongst whom was my son's master) to go to assault and burn *Medfield*: In his time of his master's absence, his dame brought him to see me. I took this to be some gracious answer to my earnest and unfeigned desire. The next day the *Indians* returned from *Medfield*: (All the company, for those that belonged to the other smaller company, came through the town that now we were at) but before they came to us. Oh the outrageous roaring and hooping that there was! they began their din about

a mile before they came to us, By their noise and hooping they signified how many they had destroyed; which was at that time twenty-three. Those that were with us at home, were gathered together as soon as they heard the hooping and every time that the other went over their number, these at home gave a shout, that the very earth rang again. And thus they continued till those that had been upon the expedition were come up to the Saggamore's wigwam; and then Oh the hideous insulting and triumphing that there was over some *English* mens scalps, that they had taken (as their manner is) and brought with them. I cannot but take notice of the wonderful mercy of God to me in those afflictions, in sending me a *Bible*: One of the *Indians* that came from *Medfield* fight, and had brought some plunder, came to me, and asked me if I would have a *Bible*, he had got one in his basket, I was glad of it, and asked him if he thought the *Indians* would let me read? he answered yes; so I took the *Bible*, and in that melancholy time, it came into my mind to read first the 28 chap. of *Deuteronomy*, which I did, and when I had read it, my dark heart wrought on this manner, that there was no mercy for me, that the blessings were gone, and the curses came in their room, and that I had lost my opportunity. But the Lord helped me still to go on reading, till I came to ch. 30. the seven first verses; where I found there was mercy promised again if we would return to him by repentance; and though we were scattered from one end of the earth to the other, yet the Lord would gather us together, and turn all those curses upon our enemies. I do not desire to live to forget this scripture, and what comfort it was to me

Now the *Indians* began to talk of removing from this place, some one way and some another. There were now besides myself nine *English* captives in this place (all of them children except one woman) I got an opportunity to go and take my leave of them, they being to go one way and I another. I asked them whether they were earnest with God for deliverance, they told me they did as they were able, and it was some comfort to me, that the Lord stirred up children to look to him. The woman, *viz.* good wife *Joslin* told me she should never see me again, and that she could find in her heart to run away by any means, for we were near thirty miles from any *English* town, and she very big with child, having but one week to reckon; and another child in her arms two years old, and bad rivers there were to go over, and we were feeble with our poor and course entertainment. I had my Bible with me, I pulled it out, and asked her whether she would read; we opened the Bible, and lighted on *Psal.* 27. in which Psalm we especially took notice of that verse, *Wait on the Lord, be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart, wait I say on the Lord*

The

The fourth Remove.

AND now muſt I part with the little company I had Here I parted with my daughter *Mary* (whom I never ſaw again till I ſaw her in *Dorcheſter*, returned from captivity) and from four little couſins and neighbours, ſome of which I never ſaw afterward, the Lord only knows the end of them. Among them alſo was that poor woman before mentioned who came to a ſad end, as ſome of the company told me in my travel: She having much grief upon her ſpirits about her miſerable condition, being ſo near her time, ſhe would be often aſking the *Indians* to let her go home: they not being willing to that, and ye vexed with her importunity gathered a great company together about her, and ſtript her naked and ſet her in the midſt of them; and when they had ſung and danced about her (in their helliſh manner) as long as they pleaſed, they knock'd her on the head, and the child in her arms with her: When they had done that, they made a fire and put them both into it, and told the other children that were with them, that if they attempted to go home, they would ſerve them in like manner. The children ſaid ſhe did not ſhed one tear, but prayed all the while. But to return to my own journey: We travelled about half a day or a little more and came to a deſolate place in the wilderneſs where there were no wigwams or inhabitants before; we came about the middle of the afternoon to this place; cold, wet and ſnowy, and hungry, and weary, and no refreſhing for man, but the cold ground to ſit on, and our poor *Indian* cheer.

Heart-aching thoughts here I had about my poor children, who were ſcattered up and down among the wild beaſts of the foreſt: My head was light and diſſy (either through hunger or bad lodging, or trouble, or all together) my knees feeble, my body raw by ſetting double night and day, that I cannot expreſs to man, the affliction that lay upon my ſpirit, but the Lord helped me at that time to expreſs it to himſelf. I opened my *Bible* to read, and the Lord brought that precious ſcripture to me, *Jer.* 31. 16. *Thus ſaith the Lord, refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears, for thy work ſhall be rewarded. and they ſhall come again from the land of the enemy.* This was a ſweet cordial to me, when I was ready to faint, many and many a time have I ſat down and wept ſweetly over this ſcripture. At this place we continued about four days.

The fifth Remove.

THE occaſion (as I thought) of their removing at this time, was the *Engliſh* army's being near and following them: For they went as if they had gone for their lives, for ſome conſiderable way; and then they made a ſtop, and choſe out ſome of their ſtouteſt

ſtouteſt men, and ſent them back to hold the *Engliſh* army in play whilſt the reſt eſcaped; and then like *Jehu* they marched on furiouſly with their old and young: ſome carried their old decrepid mothers, ſome carried one, and ſome another. Four of them carried a great *Indian* upon a bier; but going through a thick wood with him they were hindred, and could make no haſte; whereupon they took him upon their backs, and carried him one at a time, till we came to *Bacquag* river. Upon *Friday* a little afternoon we came to this river. When all the company was come up and were gathered together, I thought to count the number of them but they were ſo many, and being ſomewhat in motion, it was beyond my ſkill. In this travel, becauſe of my wound, I was ſomewhat favoured in my load: I carried only my knitting-work, and two quarts of parched meal: Being very faint, I aſked my miſtreſs to give me one ſpoonful of the meal, but ſhe would not give me a taſte. They quickly fell to cutting dry trees, to make rafts to carry them over the river, and ſoon my turn came to go over. By the advantage of ſome bruſh which they had laid upon the raft to ſit on, I did not wet my foot (while many of themſelves at the other end were mid-leg deep) which cannot but be acknowledged as a favour of God to my weakened body, it being a very cold time. I was not before acquainted with ſuch kind of doings or dangers. *When thou paſſeſt through the waters I will be with thee, and through the rivers they ſhall not overflow thee. Iſai.* 43. 2. A certain number of us got over the river that night, but it was the night after the *Sabbath* before all the company was got over. On the *Saturday* they boiled an old horſe's leg (which they had got) and ſo we drank of the broth, as ſoon as they thought it was ready, and when it was almoſt all gone, they fill'd it up again.

The firſt week of my being among them, I hardly eat any thing: the ſecond week I found my ſtomach grow very faint for want of ſomething; and yet it was very hard to get down their filthy traſh; but the third week (though I could think how formerly my ſtomach would turn againſt this or that, and I could ſtarve and die before I could eat ſuch things, yet) they were pleaſant and ſavoury to my taſte. I was at this time knitting a pair of white cotton ſtockings for my miſtreſs, and I had not yet wrought upon the *Sabbath* day: When the *Sabbath* came, they bid me go to work; I told them it was *Sabbath* day, and deſired them to let me reſt, and told them I would do as much more work to-morrow; to which they anſwered me, they would break my face. And here I cannot but take notice of the ſtrange Providence of God in preſerving the heathen: They were many hundreds, old and young, ſome ſick, and ſome lame; many had *Pappooſes* at their backs; the greateſt number at this time with us were *Squaws*, and they travelled

with

with all they had, bag and baggage, and yet they got over this river aforesaid; and on *Monday* they sat their wigwams on fire, and away they went; on that very day came the *English* army after them to this river, and saw the smoke of their wigwams, and yet this river put a stop to them. God did not give them courage or activity to go over after us: We were not ready for so great a mercy as victory and deliverance; if we had been, God would have found out a way for the *English* to have passed this river, as well as for the *Indians* with their *Squaws* and children, and all their luggage. *O that my people had hearkened unto me, and Israel had walked in my ways, I should soon have subdued their enemies, and turned my hand against their adversaries.* Psal. 81. 13, 14.

The sixth Remove.

ON *Monday* (as I said) they sat their wigwams on fire, and went away. It was a cold morning, and before us there was a great brook with ice on it: Some waded through it up to the knees and higher, but others went till they came to a beaver-dam, and I amongst them, where, through the good Providence of God, I did not wet my foot. I went along that day mourning and lamenting (leaving farther my own country, and travelling farther into the vast and howling wilderness) and I understood something of *Lot's* wife's temptation, when she looked back: We came that day to a great swamp, by the side of which we took up our lodging that night. When we came to the brow of the hill that looked toward the swamp, I thought we had been come to a great *Indian* town (though there were none but our own company) the *Indians* were as thick as the trees; it seemed as if there had been a thousand hatchets going at once: If one looked before one there was nothing but *Indians*, and behind one nothing but *Indians*; and so on either hand; and I myself in the midst, and no christian soul near — and yet how hath the Lord preserved me in safety! Oh the experience that I have had of the goodness of God to me and mine!

The seventh Remove.

AFTER a restless and hungry night there, we had a wearisome time of it the next day. The swamp, by which we lay, was as it were a deep dungeon, and an exceeding high and steep hill before it. Before I got to the top of the hill, I thought my heart and legs and all would have broken, and failed me. What through faintness and soreness of body, it was a grievous day of travel to me. As we went along, I saw a place where *English* cattle had been, that was a comfort to me, such as it was: Quickly after that we came to an *English* path, which so took me, that I thought I could there

there have freely lien down and died. That day, a little after noon, we came to *Squaheag*, where the *Indians* quickly ſpread themſelves over the deſerted *Engliſh* fields, gleaning what they could find; ſome pick'd up ears of wheat that were crickled down, ſome found ears of *Indian* corn, ſome found ground-nuts, and others ſheaves of wheat that were frozen together in the ſhock, and went to threſhing of them out. Myſelf got two ears of *Indian* corn, and whilſt I did but turn my back, one of them was ſtolen from me, which much troubled me. There came an *Indian* to them at that time, with a baſket of *horſe-liver*; I aſked him to give me a piece: What, (ſays he) can you eat *horſe-liver?* I told him I would try, if he would give me a piece, which he did; and I laid it on the coals to roaſt, but before it was half ready, they got half of it away from me; ſo that I was forced to take the reſt and eat it as it was, with the blood about my mouth, and yet a ſavory bit it was to me; for to the hungry ſoul every bitter thing was ſweet. A ſolemn ſight methought it was, to ſee whole fields of wheat and *Indian* corn forſaken and ſpoiled, and the remainder of them to be food for our mercileſs enemies. That night we had a meſs of wheat for our ſupper.

The eighth Remove.

ON the morrow morning we muſt go over *Connecticut* river to meet with King *Philip*; two canoes full they had carried over, the next turn my ſelf was to go; but as my foot was upon the canoe to ſtep in, there was a ſudden out-cry among them, and I muſt ſtep back; and inſtead of going over the river, I muſt go four or five miles up the river farther *Northward*. Some of the *Indians* ran one way and ſome another. The cauſe of this rout was, as I tho't, their eſpying ſome *Engliſh* ſcouts, who were there-abouts. In this travel up the river, about noon the company made a ſtop, and ſat down, ſome to eat and others to reſt them. As I ſat amongſt them, muſing on things paſt, my ſon *Joſeph* unexpectedly came to me: We aſked of each others welfare, bemoaning our doleful condition, and the change that had come upon us: We had huſband, and father, and children, and ſiſters, and friends and relations, and houſe, and home, and many comforts of this life; but now we might ſay as *Job, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked ſhall I return; The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away, bleſſed be the name of the Lord.* I aſked him whether he would read? he told me he earneſtly deſired it. I gave him my Bible, and he lighted upon that comfortable ſcripture, *Pſalm* 118. 17, 18. *I ſhall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord: The Lord hath chaſtened me ſore, yet he hath not given me over to death.* Look

here

here mother, (says he) did you read this? And here I may take occasion to mention one principal ground of my setting forth these lines, even as the Psalmist says, to declare the works of the Lord, and his wonderful power in carrying us along, preserving us in the wilderness, while under the enemy's hand, and returning of us in safety again; and his goodness in bringing to my hand so many comfortable and suitable scriptures in my distress.

But to return: We travelled on till night, and in the morning we must go over the river to *Philip*'s crew. When I was in the canoe, I could not but be amazed at the numerous crew of Pagans that were on the bank on the other side. When I came ashore, they gathered all about me, I sitting alone in the midst: I observed they asked one another questions, and laughed, and rejoiced over their gains and victories. Then my heart began to fail, and I fell a weeping; which was the first time to my remembrance, that I wept before them; although I had met with so much affliction, and my heart was many times ready to break, yet could I not shed one tear in their sight, but rather had been all this while in a maze, and like one astonished; but now I may say as *Psal.* 137. 1. *By the river of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion.* There one of them asked me why I wept? I could hardly tell what to say; yet I answered, they would kill me: No said he, none will hurt you. Then came one of them, and gave me two spoonfuls of meal (to comfort me) and another gave me half a pint of peas which was worth more than many bushels at another time. Then I went to see King *Philip*; he bid me come in, and sit down; and asked me whether I would smoke it? (a usual compliment now a days, among the saints and sinners) but this no ways suited me. For though I had formerly used tobacco, yet I had left it ever since I was first taken. It seems to be a bait, the devil lays to make men lose their precious time. I remember with shame, how formerly, when I had taken two or three pipes, I was presently ready for another; such a bewitching thing it is: But I thank God, he has now given me power over it; surely there are many who may be better employed, than to sit sucking a stinking tobacco-pipe.

Now the *Indians* gathered their forces to go against *Northampton*: Over night one went about yelling and hooting to give notice of the design. Whereupon they went to boiling of groundnuts, and parching corn (as many as had it) for their provision; and in the morning away they went. During my abode in this place, *Philip* spake to me to make a shirt for his boy, which I did; for which he gave me a shilling; I offered the money to my mistress, but she bid me keep it, and with it I bought a piece of

corn.

horſe-fleſh. Afterward he aſked me to make a cap for his boy, for which he invited me to dinner; I went, and he gave me a pan-cake, about as big as two fingers; it was made of parched wheat, beaten, and fried in bear's greaſe but I thought I never taſted pleaſanter meat in my life There was a *Squaw* who ſpake to me to make a ſhirt for her *Sannup*: for which ſhe gave me a piece of beef. Another aſked me to knit a pair of ſtockings, for which ſhe gave me a quart of peas. I boiled my peas and beef together, and invited my maſter and miſtreſs to dinner; but the proud goſſip, becauſe I ſerved them both in one diſh, would eat nothing, except one bit that he gave her upon the point of his knife. Hearing that my ſon was come to this place, I went to ſee him, and found him lying flat on the ground; I aſked him how he could ſleep ſo? he anſwered me, that he was not aſleep, but at prayer; and that he lay ſo, that they might not obſerve what he was doing. I pray God he may remember theſe things now he is returned in ſafety. At this place (the ſun now getting higher) what with the beams and heat of the ſun, and the ſmoke of the wigwams, I thought I ſhould have been blinded. I could ſcarce diſcern one wigwam from another. There was one *Mary Thurſton* of *Medfield*, who ſeeing how it was with me, lent me a hat to wear; but as ſoon as I was gone, the *Squaw* that owned that *Mary Thurſton*, came running after me, and got it away again. Here was a *Squaw* who gave me a ſpoonful of meal, I put it in my pocket to keep it ſafe, yet notwithſtanding ſome body ſtole it, but put five *Indian* corns in the room of it; which corns were the greateſt proviſion I had in my travel for one day.

The *Indians* returning from *North-Hampton*, brought with them ſome horſes, and ſheep, and other things which they had taken: I deſired them that they would carry me to *Albany* upon one of thoſe horſes, and ſell me for powder; for ſo they had ſometimes diſcourſed. I was utterly helpleſs of getting home on foot, the way that I came. I could hardly bear to think of the many weary ſteps I had taken to this place.

The ninth Remove.

BUT inſtead of either going to *Albany* or home-ward, we muſt go five miles up the river, and then go over it. Here we abode a while. Here lived a ſorry *Indian*, who ſpake to me to make him a ſhirt, when I had done it, he would pay me nothing for it. But he living by the river ſide, where I often went to fetch water, I would often be putting him in mind, and calling for my pay; at laſt he told me, if I would make another ſhirt for a Papoos not yet born, he would give me a knife, which he did, when

I had done it. I carried the knife in, and my maſter aſked me to give it him, and I was not a little glad that I had any thing that they would accept of, and be pleaſed with. When we were at this place, my maſter's maid came home : ſhe had been gone three weeks into the *Narraganſet* country to fetch corn, where they had ſtored up ſome in the ground : She brought home about a peck and a half of corn. This was about the time that their great Captain *(Naonanto)* was killed in the *Narraganſet* country.

My ſon being now about a mile from me, I aſked liberty to go and ſee him, they bid me go and away I went ; but quickly loſt myſelf, travelling over hills and through ſwamps, and could not find the way to him. And I cannot but admire at the wonderful power and goodneſs of God to me, in that though I was gone from home and met with all ſorts of *Indians*, and thoſe I had no knowledge of, and there being no chriſtian ſoul near me, yet not one of them offered the leaſt imaginable miſcarriage to me. I turned homeward again, and met with my maſter, and he ſhewed me the way to my ſon. When I came to him, I found him not well ; and withal he had a boil on his ſide, which much troubled him : We bemoaned one another a while as the Lord helped us, and then I returned again. When I was returned, I found myſelf as unſatisfied as I was before. I went up and down mourning and lamenting, and my ſpirit was ready to ſink, with the thoughts of my poor children : My ſon was ill, and I could not but think of his mournful looks, having no chriſtian friend near him, to do any office of love to him, either for ſoul or body. And my poor girl, I knew not where ſhe was, nor whether ſhe was ſick or well, alive or dead. I repaired under theſe thoughts to my Bible, (my great comforter in that time) and that ſcripture came to my hand, *Caſt thy burden upon the Lord, and he ſhall ſuſtain thee Pſalm* 55. 22

But I was fain to go look after ſomething to ſatisfy my hunger : And going among the wigwams, I went into one, and there found a Squaw who ſhewed herſelf very kind to me, and gave me a piece of bear. I put it into my pocket, and came home ; but could not find an opportunity to broil it for fear they ſhould get it from me ; and there it lay all the day and night in my ſtinking pocket. In the morning I went again to the ſame Squaw, who had a kettle of ground-nuts boiling : I aſked her to let me boil my piece of bear in the kettle, which ſhe did, and gave me ſome ground nuts to eat with it, and I cannot but think how pleaſant it was to me. I have ſometimes ſeen bear baked handſomely amongſt the *Engliſh*, and ſome liked it, but the thoughts that it was bear, made me tremble : But now that was ſavory to me that one would think was enough to turn the ſtomach of a brute-creature,

One bitter cold day, I could find no room to ſit down before the fire: I went out, and could not tell what to do, but I went into another wigwam, where they were alſo ſitting round the fire; but the Squaw laid a ſkin for me, and bid me ſet down, and gave me ſome ground nuts, and bid me come again: and told me they would buy me if they were able; and yet theſe were ſtrangers to me that I never knew before.

The tenth Remove.

THAT day a ſmall part of the company removed about three quarters of a mile, intending farther the next day. When they came to the place they intended to lodge, and had pitched their wigwams, being hungry, I went again back to the place we were before at, to get ſomething to eat; being encouraged by the Squaw's kindneſs, who bid me come again. When I was there, there came an *Indian* to look after me; who when he had found me, kickt me all-along. I went home and found veniſon roaſting that night, but they would not give me one bit of it. Sometimes I met with favour, and ſometimes with nothing but frowns.

The eleventh Remove.

THE next day in the morning, they took their travel, intending a day's journey up the river; I took my load at my back, and quickly we came to wade over a river, and paſſed over tireſome and weariſome hills. One hill was ſo ſteep, that I was fain to creep up upon my knees, and to hold by the twigs and buſhes to keep myſelf from falling backward. My head alſo was ſo light that I uſually reeled as I went: But I hope all thoſe weariſome ſteps that I have taken, are but a forwarding of me to the heavenly reſt. *I know, O Lord, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulneſs hath afflicted me.* *Pſalm* 119. 75.

The twelfth Remove.

IT was upon a Sabbath day morning, that they prepared for their travel. This morning I aſked my maſter whether he would ſell me to my huſband? he anſwered *nux*; which did much rejoice my ſpirit. My miſtreſs, before we went, was gone to the burial of a *Papoos*, and returning, ſhe found me ſitting, and reading in my Bible: She ſnatcht it haſtily out of my hand, and threw it out of doors; I ran out and catcht it up, and put it into my pocket, and never let her ſee it afterwards. Then they packed up their things to be gone, and gave me my load: I complained it was too heavy, whereupon ſhe gave me a ſlap on the face, and bid me be gone. I lifted up my heart to God, hoping that redemption was not far off; and the rather becauſe their inſolence grew worſe and worſe.

But

But thoughts of my going homeward (for ſo we bent our courſe) much cheered my ſpirit, and made my burden ſeem light, and almoſt nothing at all. But (to my amazement and great perplexity) the ſcale was ſoon turned; for when we had got a little way on a ſudden my miſtreſs gave out ſhe would go no further, but turn back again, and ſaid I muſt go back again with her, and ſhe called her Sannup, and would have had him go back alſo, but he would not; but ſaid, he would go on, and come to us again in three days. My ſpirit was upon this (I confeſs) very impatient, and almoſt outrageous. I thought I could as well have died as went back. I cannot declare the trouble that I was in about it; back again I muſt go. As ſoon as I had an opportunity, I took my Bible to read, and that quieting ſcripture came to my hand, *Pſalm* 46. 10. *Be ſtill and know that I am God.* Which ſtilled my ſpirit for the preſent: but a ſore time of trial I concluded I had to go through. My maſter being gone, who ſeemed to me the beſt friend I had of an *Indian*, both in cold and hunger, and quickly ſo it proved Down I ſat with my heart as full as it could hold, and yet ſo hungry, that I could not ſit neither: But going out to ſee what I could find, and walking among the trees, I found ſix acorns and two cheſnuts, which were ſome refreſhment to me. Towards night I gathered me ſome ſticks for my own comfort, that I might not lie a cold; but when we came to lie down, they bid me go out, and lie ſomewhere elſe, for they had company (they ſaid come in more than their own:) I told them I could not tell where to go, they bid me go look: I told them, if I went to another wigwam they would be angry, and ſend me home again. Then one of the company drew his ſword, and told me he would run me through if I did not go preſently. Then was I fain to ſtoop to this rude fellow, and go out in the night, I knew not whither. Mine eyes hath ſeen that fellow afterwards walking up and down in *Boſton*, under the appearance of a friendly *Indian*, and ſeveral others of the like cut. I went to one wigwam, and they told me they had no room. Then I went to another, and they ſaid the ſame: At laſt an old *Indian* bid me come to him, and his Squaw gave me ſome ground-nuts; ſhe gave me alſo ſomething to lay under my head, and a good fire we had: Through the good providence of God, I had a comfortable lodging that night. In he morning another *Indian* bid me come at night, and he would give me ſix ground-nuts, which I did. We were at this place and time about two miles from *Connecticut* river. We went in the morning (to gather ground-nuts) to the river, and went back again at night. I went with a great load at my back (for they when they went, tho' but a little way would carry all their trumpery with them) I told them the ſkin was off my back, but I had no other comforting anſwer from them than this, that it would be no matter if my head was off too.

The

The thirteenth Remove.

INSTEAD of going towards the *Bay* (which was what I desired) I must go with them five or six miles down the river, into a mighty thicket of brush, where we abode almost a fortnight. Here one asked me to make a shirt for her papoos for which she gave me a mess of broth, which was thickned with meal made of the bark of a tree: and to make it better she had put into it about a handful of peas, and a few roasted ground-nuts. I had not seen my son a pretty while, and here was an *Indian* of whom I made enquiry after him, and asked him when he saw him? He answered me, that such a time his master roasted him, and that himself did eat a piece of him as big as his two fingers, and that he was very good meat. But the Lord upheld my spirit under this discouragement: and I considered their horrible addictednes to lying, and that there is not one of them that makes the least conscience of speaking the truth.

In this place, one cold night, as I lay by the fire, I removed a stick which kept the heat from me, a squaw moved it down again, at which I looked up, and she threw an handful of ashes in my eyes; I thought I should have been quite blinded and never have seen more: But lying down, the water ran out of my eyes, and carried the dirt with it, that by the morning I recovered my sight again. Yet upon this, and the like occasions, I hope it is not too much to say with *Job. Have pity upon me, have pity upon me. O ye my friends, for the hand of the LORD hath touched me.* And here I cannot but remember how many times sitting in their wigwams, and musing on things past, I should suddenly leap up and run out, as if I had been at home, forgetting where I was, and what my condition was, but when I was without, and saw nothing but wilderness and woods, and a company of barbarous Heathen, my mind quickly returned to me, which made me think of that spoken concerning *Samson*, who said *I will go out and shake myself as at other times, but he wist not that the Lord was departed from him.*

About this time, I began to think that all my hopes of restoration would come to nothing. I thought of the *English* army, and hoped for their coming, and being retaken by them, but that failed. I hoped to be carried to *Albany*, as the *Indians* had discoursed, but that failed also.

I thought of being sold to my husband, as my master spake; but instead of that, my master himself was gone, and I left behind, so that my spirit was now quite ready to sink. I asked them to let me go out and pick up some sticks, that I might get alone, and pour out my heart unto the Lord. Then also I took my Bible to read,

read, but I found no comfort here neither, yet I can say, in all my sorrows and afflictions, God did not leave me to have any impatient work toward himself, as if his ways were unrighteous; but I knew that he laid upon me less than I deserved. Afterward, before this doleful time ended with me, I was turning the leaves of my Bible, and the Lord brought to me some scripture which did a little revive me, as that, *Isa.* 55. 8. *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are my ways your ways, saith the Lord.* And also that, *Psalm* 37. 5. *Commit thy ways unto the Lord, trust also in him, and he shall bring it to pass.*

About this time they came yelping from *Hadley*, having there killed three *Englishmen*, and brought one captive with them, *viz.* *Thomas Read.* They all gathered about the poor man, asking him many questions. I desired also to go and see him; and when I came he was crying bitterly, supposing they would quickly kill him. Whereupon I asked one of them, whether they intended to kill him, he answered me, they would not: He being a little cheered with that, I asked him about the welfare of my husband, he told me he saw him such a time in the *Bay*, and he was well, but very melancholy. By which I certainly understood (though I suspected it before) that whatsoever the *Indians* told me respecting him, was vanity and lies. Some of them told me he was dead, and they had killed him: Some said he was married again, and that the governor wished him to marry, and told him that he should have his choice, and that all persuaded him I was dead. So like were these barbarous creatures to him who was a liar from the beginning.

As I was sitting once in the wigwam here, *Philip*'s maid came with the child in her arms, and asked me to give her a piece off my apron, to make a flap for it; I told her I would not; then my mistress bid me give it, but I still said no. The maid told me, if I would not give her a piece, she would tear a piece off it: I told her I would tear her coat then: With that my mistress rises up, and takes up a stick big enough to have killed me, and struck at me with it, but I stept out, and she struck the stick into the mat of the wigwam. But while she was pulling it out, I ran to the maid, and gave her all my apron; and so that storm went over.

Hearing that my son was come to this place, I went to see him, and told him his father was well, but very melancholy: He told me he was as much grieved for his father as for himself: I wondered at his speech, for I thought I had enough upon my spirit, in reference to myself, to make me mindless of my husband, and every one else, they being safe among their friends. He told me also, that a while before, his master (together with other *Indians*) were going to the *French* for powder, but by the way the *Mohawks* met

with

with them, and killed four of their company, which made the reſt turn back again ; for which I deſire that myſelf and he may ever bleſs the Lord; for it might have been worſe with him, had he been ſold to the *French*, than it proved to be in his remaining with the *Indians*.

I went to ſee an *Engliſh* youth in this place, one *John Gilbert*, of *Springfield*. I found him lying without doors upon the ground; I aſked him how he did; he told me he was very ſick of a flux with eating ſo much blood. They had turned him out of the wigwam, and with him an *Indian* Papoos, almoſt dead, whoſe parents had been killed, in a bitter cold day, without fire or cloaths: The young man himſelf had nothing on but his ſhirt and waiſtcoat.—This ſight was enough to melt a heart of ſtone.—There they lay quivering in the cold, the youth round like a dog, the Papoos ſtretched out, with his eyes, noſe, and mouth full of dirt, and yet alive, and groaning. I adviſed *John* to go and get to ſome fire ; he told me he could not ſtand, but I perſuaded him ſtill, leſt he ſhould lie there and die. And with much ado I got him to a fire, and went myſelf home. As ſoon as I was got home, his maſter's daughter came after me, to know what I had done with the *Engliſhman?* I told her I had got him to a fire in ſuch a place. Now had I need to pray *Paul*'s prayer, 2 *Theſſ.* 3. 2. *That we may be delivered from unreaſonable and wicked men.* For her ſatisfaction I went along with her, and brought her to him; but before I got home again, it was noiſed about, that I was running away, and getting the *Engliſh* youth along with me: That as ſoon as I came in, they began to rant and domineer, aſking me where I had been, and what I had been doing? and ſaying they would knock me on the head: I told them I had been ſeeing the *Engliſh* youth, and that I would not run away. They told me I lied, and getting up a hatchet, they came to me, and ſaid they would knock me down if I ſtirred out again; and ſo confined me to the wigwam. Now may I ſay with *David*, 2 *Sam.* 24. 14. *I am in a great ſtrait.* If I keep in, I muſt die with hunger; and if I go out, I muſt be knocked on the head. This diſtreſſed condition held that day, and half the next; and then the Lord remembered me, whoſe mercies are great. Then came an *Indian* to me with a pair of ſtockings which were too big for him, and he would have me ravel them out, and knit them fit for him. I ſhewed myſelf willing, and bid him aſk my miſtreſs if I might go along with him a little way? She ſaid, yes, I might; but I was not a little refreſhed with that news, that I had my liberty again. Then I went along with him, and he gave me ſome roaſted ground-nuts, which did again revive my feeble ſtomach.

Being

Being got out of her ſight, I had time and liberty again to look into my Bible, which was my guide by day, and my pillow by night. Now that comfortable ſcripture preſented itſelf to me, *Iſa.* 45. 7. *For a ſmall moment have I forſaken thee, but with great mercies will I gather thee.* Thus the Lord carried me along from one time to another, and made good to me this precious promiſe, and many others Then my ſon came to ſee me, and I aſked his maſter to let him ſtay a while with me, that I might comb his head, and look over him, for he was almoſt overcome with lice. He told me when I had done, that he was very hungry, but I had nothing to relieve him, but bid him go into the wigwams as he went along, and ſee if he could get any thing among them. Which he did, and (it ſeems) tarried a little too long, for his maſter was angry with him, and beat him, and then ſold him. Then he came running to tell me he had a new maſter, and that he had given him ſome ground-nuts already. Then I went along with him to his new maſter, who told me he loved him, and he ſhould not want. So his maſter carried him away, and I never ſaw him afterward, till I ſaw him at *Piſcataqua* in *Portſmouth.*

That night they bid me go out of the wigwam again ; My miſtreſs's Papoos was ſick, and it died that night ; and there was one benefit in it, that there was more room. I went to a wigwam, and they bid me come in, and gave me a ſkin to lie upon, and a meſs of veniſon and ground-nuts, which was a choice diſh among them. On the morrow they buried the Papoos ; and afterward, both morning and evening, there came a company to mourn and howl with her : Though I confeſs I could not much condole with them. Many ſorrowful days I had in this place ; often getting alone, *like a crane or a ſwallow, ſo did I chatter ; I did mourn as a dove, mine eyes fail with looking upward. O Lord I am oppreſſed, undertake for me Iſai.* 38. 14. I could tell the Lord as *Hezekiah, Ver.* 3. *Remember now O Lord, I beſeech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth.* Now had I time to examine all my ways : My conſcience did not accuſe me of unrighteouſneſs towards one or another ; yet I ſaw how in my walk with God, I had been a careleſs creature. As *David* ſaid, *againſt thee only have I ſinned.* And I might ſay with the poor publican; *God be merciful unto me a ſinner.* Upon the Sabbath days I could look upon the ſun, and think how people were going to the houſe of God to have their ſouls refreſh'd, and then home and their bodies alſo ; but I was deſtitute of both, and might ſay as the poor prodigal, *He would fain have filled his belly with the huſks that the ſwine did eat, and no man gave unto him. Luke* 15. 16. For I muſt ſay with him, *Father I have ſinned againſt heaven and in thy ſight.* Ver. 21. I remember how on the night before and after the

the Sabbath, when my family was about me, and relations and neighbours with us; we could pray, and ſing, and refreſh our bodies with the good creatures of God, and then have a comfortable bed to lie down on; but inſtead of all this, I had only a little ſwill for the body, and then like a ſwine, muſt lie down on the ground. I cannot expreſs to man, the ſorrow that lay upon my ſpirit, the Lord knows it. Yet that comfortable ſcripture would often come to my mind. *For a ſmall moment have I forſaken thee, but with great mercies will I gather thee.*

The fourteenth Remove.

NOW muſt we pack up and be gone from this thicket, bending our courſe toward the bay-towns. I having nothing to eat by the way this day, but a few crumbs of cake that an *Indian* gave my girl, the ſame day we were taken. She gave it me, and I put it into my pocket: There it lay, till it was ſo mouldy (for want of good baking) that one could not tell what it was made of; it fell all into crumbs, and grew ſo dry and hard, that it was like little flints; and this refreſhed me many times, when I was ready to faint. It was in my thoughts when I put it to my mouth, that if ever I returned, I would tell the world, what a bleſſing the Lord gave to ſuch mean food. As we went along, they killed a deer, with a young one in her; they gave me a piece of the fawn, and it was ſo young and tender, that one might eat the bones as well as the fleſh, and yet I thought it very good. When night came on, we ſat down; it rained, but they quickly got up a bark wigwam, where I lay dry that night. I looked out in the morning, and many of them had lien in the rain all night, I ſaw by their reaking. Thus the Lord dealt mercifully with me many times, and I fared better than many of them. In the morning they took the blood of the deer, and put it into the paunch, and ſo boiled it: I could eat nothing of that, though they eat it ſweetly. And yet they were ſo nice in other things, that when I had fetch'd water, and had put the diſh I dip'd the water with into the kettle of water which I brought, they would ſay they would knock me down: for they ſaid it was a ſluttiſh trick.

The fifteenth Remove.

WE went on our travel. I having got an handful of ground-nuts for my ſupport that day: They gave me my load, and I went on cheerfully (with the thoughts of going homeward) having my burthen more upon my back than my ſpirit. We came to *Baquaug* river again that day, near which we abode a few days. Sometimes one of them would give me a pipe, another a little tobacco, another a little ſalt, which I would change for victuals. I

cannot

cannot but think what a wolvish appetite persons have in a starving condition; for many times, when they gave me that which was hot, I was so greedy, that I should burn my mouth, that it would trouble me many hours after, and yet I should quickly do the like again. And after I was thoroughly hungry, I was never again satisfied. For though it sometimes fell out that I had got enough, and did eat till I could eat no more; yet I was as unsatisfied as I was when I began. And now could I see that scripture verified, there being many scriptures that we do not take notice of, or understand till we are afflicted, *Mic.* 6. 14. *Thou shalt eat and not be satisfied.* Now might I see more than ever before, the miseries that sin hath brought upon us. Many times I should be ready to run out against the heathen, but that scripture would quiet me again, *Amos* 3 6. *Shall there be evil in the city, and the Lord hath not done it?* The Lord help me to make a right improvement of his word, and that I might learn that great lesson, *Mic.* 6. 8. 9. *He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good, and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and love mercy, and walk humbly with thy God? Hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it.*

The sixteenth Remove.

WE began this remove with wading over *Baquaug* river. The water was up to our knees, and the stream very swift, and so cold, that I thought it would have cut me in sunder. I was so weak and feeble, that I reeled as I went along, and thought there I must end my days at last, after my bearing and getting through so many difficulties. The *Indians* stood laughing to see me staggering along, but in my distress, the Lord gave me experience of the truth and goodness of that promise, *Isa* 43. 2. *When thou passest through the waters I will be with thee, and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee.* Then I sat down to put on my stockings and shoes, with the tears running down my eyes, and many sorrowful thoughts in my heart. But I got up to go along with them. Quickly there came up to us an *Indian* who informed them, that I must go to *Wachusett* to my master for there was a letter come from the council to the *Saggamores* about redeeming the captives, and that there would be another in 4 days, and that I must be there ready. My heart was so heavy before, that I could scarce speak, or go in the path; and yet now so light that I could run. My strength seemed to come again, and to recruit my feeble knees, and aching heart; yet it pleased them to go but one mile that night, and there we stayed two days. In that time came a company of *Indians* to us, near thirty, all on horse-back. My heart skipt within me, thinking they had been *Englishmen*, at the first sight of them: For they were dressed in *English* apparel;

with hats, white neckcloths, and ſaſhes about their waiſts, and ribbons upon their ſhoulders: But when they came near, there was a vaſt difference between the lovely faces of chriſtians, and the foul looks of thoſe heathen, which much damped my ſpirits again.

The ſeventeenth Remove.

A Comfortable remove it was to me, becauſe of my hopes. They gave me my pack and along we went cheerfully; but quickly my will proved more than my ſtrength; having little or no refreſhment, my ſtrength failed, and my ſpirits were almoſt quite gone. Now may I ſay as *David*, *Pſalm* 109. 22. 23. 24. *I am poor and needy, and my heart is wounded within me. I am gone like the ſhadow when it declineth: I am toſſed up and down like the locuſt: My knees are weak through faſting, and my fleſh faileth of fatneſs.* At night we came to an *Indian* town, and the *Indians* ſat down by a wigwam diſcourſing, but I was almoſt ſpent and could ſcarce ſpeak. I laid down my load, and went into the wigwam, and there ſat an *Indian* boiling of horſe-feet (they being wont to eat the fleſh firſt, and when the feet were old and dried, and they had nothing elſe, they would cut off the feet and uſe them) I aſked him to give me a little of his broth, or water they were boiling in: He took a diſh, and gave me one ſpoonful of ſamp, and bid me take as much of the broth as I would. Then I put ſome of the hot water to the ſamp, and drank it up, and my ſpirits came again. He gave me alſo a piece of the ruffe, or ridding of the ſmall guts, and I broiled it on the coals, and now I may ſay with *Jonathan*, *ſee I pray you, how mine eyes are enlightened becauſe I taſted a little of this honey.* 1 *Sam.* 14. 20. Now is my ſpirit revived again; though means be never ſo inconſiderable, yet if the Lord beſtow his bleſſing upon them, they ſhall refreſh both ſoul and body.

The eighteenth Remove.

WE took up our packs, and along we went. But a weariſome day I had of it. As we went along, I ſaw an *Engliſhman* ſtripped naked, and lying dead upon the ground, but knew not who he was. Then we came to another *Indian* town, where we ſtayed all night. In this town there were four *Engliſh* children captives, and one of them my own ſiſter's. I went to ſee how ſhe did, and ſhe was well, conſidering her captive condition. I would have tarried that night with her, but they that owned her would not ſuffer it. Then I went to another wigwam, where they were boiling corn and beans, which was a lovely ſight

ſight to ſee, but I could not get a taſte thereof. Then I went into another wigwam, where there were two of the *Engliſh* children: The Squaw was boiling horſes feet, ſhe cut me off a little piece, and gave one of the *Engliſh* children a piece alſo. Being very hungry; I had quickly eat up mine; but the child could not bite it, it was ſo tough and ſinewy, but lay ſucking, gnawing and ſlabbering of it in the mouth and hand, then I took it of the child, and eat it my ſelf, and ſavory it was to my taſte. That I may ſay as *Job, Chap.* 6. 7. *The things that my ſoul refuſeth to touch, are as my ſorrowful meat.* Thus the Lord made that pleaſant and refreſhing, which another time would have been an abomination. Then I went home to my miſtreſs's wigwam, and they told me I diſgraced my maſter with begging, and if I did ſo any more, they would knock me on the head: I told them, they had as good do that, as ſtarve me to death.

The nineteenth Remove.

THEY ſaid when we went out, that we muſt travel to *Wachuſet* this day. But a bitter weary day I had of it, travelling now three days together, without reſting any day between. At laſt, after many weary ſteps, I ſaw *Wachuſet* hills, but many miles off. Then we came to a great ſwamp, through which we travelled up to our knees in mud and water, which was heavy going to one tired before. Being almoſt ſpent, I thought I ſhould have ſunk down at laſt, and never got out; but I may ſay as in *Pſalm* 94. 18. *When my foot ſlipped, thy mercy, O Lord, held me up.*— Going along, having indeed my life, but little ſpirit, *Philip* (who was in the company) came up, and took me by the hand, and ſaid, *Two weeks more and you ſhall be miſtreſs again.* I aſked him if he ſpake true? he anſwered yes, and quickly you ſhall come to your maſter again, who had been gone from us three weeks. After many weary ſteps, we came to *Wachuſet*, where he was, and glad was I to ſee him. He aſked me when I waſhed me? I told him not this month; then he fetched me ſome water himſelf, and bid me waſh, and gave me a glaſs to ſee how I look'd, and bid his Squaw give me ſomething to eat. So ſhe gave me a meſs of beans and meat, and a little ground-nut cake. I was wonderfully revived with this favour ſhewed me. *Pſalm* 106. 46. *He made them alſo to be pitied of all thoſe that carried them away captive.*

My maſter had three Squaws, living ſometimes with one, and ſometimes with another. Onux, this old Squaw at whoſe wigwam I was, and with whom my maſter had been theſe three weeks: Another was Wettimore, with whom I had lived and ſerved all this while. A ſevere and proud dame ſhe was; beſtowing every day in dreſſing herſelf near as much time as any of the gentry of the land:

land: Powdering her hair, and painting her face, going with her necklaces, with jewels in her ears, and bracelets upon her hands. When she had dressed herself, her work was to make girdles of wampom and beads. The third Squaw was a younger one, by whom he had two Papooses. By that time I was refreshed by the old Squaw, Wettimore's maid came to call me home, at which I fell a weeping. Then the old Squaw told me to encourage me, that when I wanted victuals, I should come to her, and that I should lie in her wigwam. Then I went with the maid, and quickly I came back and lodged there. The Squaw laid a mat under me, and a good rug over me; the first time that I had any such kindness shewed me. I understood that Wettimore thought, that if she should let me go and serve with the old Squaw, she should be in danger to lose (not only my Service) but the redemption-pay also. And I was not a little glad to hear this; being by it raised in my hopes, that in God's due time there would be an end of this sorrowful hour. Then came an *Indian* and asked me to knit him three pair of stockings, for which I had a hat and a silk handkerchief. Then another asked me to make her a shift, for which she gave me an apron.

Then came *Tom* and *Peter* with the second letter from the council, about the captives. Though they were *Indians*, I got them by the hand, and burst out into tears; my heart was so full that I could not speak to them; but recovering myself, I asked them how my husband did? and all my friends and acquaintance? they said they were well, but very melancholy. They brought me two baskets, and a pound of tobacco, the tobacco I soon gave away: When it was all gone, one asked me to give him a pipe of tobacco, I told him it was all gone; then he began to rant and threaten; I told him when my husband came, I would give him some: Hang him rogue, says he, I will knock out his brains, if he comes here. And then again at the same breath, they would say, that if there should come an hundred without guns they would do them no hurt. So unstable and like mad-men they were. So that, fearing the worst, I durst not send to my husband, though there were some thoughts of his coming to redeem and fetch me, not knowing what might follow; for there was but little more truth to them than to the master they served. When the letter was come, the Saggamores met to consult about the captives, and called me to them, to enquire how much my husband would give to redeem me. When I came I sat down among them, as I was wont to do, as their manner is: Then they bid me stand up, and said, they were the general court. They bid me speak what I thought he would give. Now knowing that all that we had was destroyed

by

by the *Indians*, I was in a great ſtrait. I thought if I ſhould ſpeak of but a little, it would be ſlighted, and hinder the matter; if of a great ſum, I knew not where it would be procured; yet at a venture, I ſaid twenty pounds, yet deſired them to take leſs; but they would not hear of that, but ſent that meſſage to *Boſton*, that for twenty pounds I ſhould be redeemed. It was a praying *Indian* that wrote their letters for them. There was another praying *Indian*, who told me that he had a brother, that would not eat horſe, his conſcience was ſo tender and ſcrupulous, though as large as hell, for the deſtruction of poor chriſtians, then he ſaid, he read that ſcripture to him, 2 *Kings* 6. 25. *There was a famine in Samaria, and behold they beſieged it, until an aſs's head was ſold for fourſcore pieces of ſilver, and the fourth part of a kab of doves dung, for five pieces of ſilver.* He expounded this place to his brother, and ſhewed him that it was lawful to eat that in a famine, which it is not at another time. And now ſays he, he will eat horſe with any *Indian* of them all. There was another praying *Indian*, who when he had done all the miſchief that he could, betrayed his own father into the *Engliſh*'s hands, thereby to purchaſe his own life. Another praying *Indian* was at *Sudbury* fight, though as he deſerved, he was afterwards hanged for it. There was another praying *Indian*, ſo wicked and cruel, as to wear a ſtring about his neck, ſtrung with chriſtian fingers. Another praying *Indian*, when they went to *Sudbury* fight, went with them, and his Squaw alſo with him, with her papoos at her back: Before they went to that fight, they got a company together to powow: The manner was as followeth.

There was one that kneeled upon a deer-ſkin, with the company round him in a ring, who kneeled, ſtriking upon the ground with their hands, and with ſticks, and muttering or humming with their mouths. Beſides him who kneeled in the ring, there alſo ſtood one with a gun in his hand: Then he on the deer-ſkin made a ſpeech, and all manifeſted aſſent to it, and ſo they did many times together. Then they bid him with a gun go out of the ring, which he did; but when he was out, they called him in again; but he ſeemed to make a ſtand: Then they called the more earneſtly, till he turned again. Then they all ſang. Then they gave him two guns, in each hand one. And ſo he on the deer-ſkin began again; and at the end of every ſentence in his ſpeaking, they all aſſented, and humming or muttering with their mouths, and ſtriking upon the ground with their hands. Then they bid him with the two guns, go out of the ring again: which he did a little way. Then they called him again, but he made a ſtand, ſo they called him with greater earneſtneſs:

But

But he ſtood reeling and wavering, as if he knew not whether he ſhould ſtand or fall, or which way to go. Then they called him with exceeding great vehemency, all of them, one and another. After a little while he turned in ſtaggering as he went, with his arms ſtretched out, in each hand a gun. As ſoon as he came in, they all ſang and rejoiced exceedingly a while, and then he upon the deer-ſkin made another ſpeech, unto which they all aſſented in a rejoicing manner; and ſo they ended their buſineſs, and forthwith went to *Sudbury* fight.

To my thinking, they went without any ſcruple but that they ſhould proſper, and gain the victory. And they went out not ſo rejoicing, but they came home with as great a victory. For they ſaid they killed two captains, and almoſt an hundred men. One *Engliſhman* they brought alive with them, and he ſaid it was too true, for they had made ſad work at *Sudbury*; as indeed it proved. Yet they came home without that rejoicing and triumphing over their victory, which they were wont to ſhew at other times: But rather like dogs (as they ſay) which have loſt their ears. Yet I could not perceive that it was for their own loſs of men; they ſaid they loſt not above five or ſix; and I miſſed none, except in one wigwam. When they went, they acted as if the devil had told them that they ſhould gain the victory, and now they acted as if the devil had told them they ſhould have a fall. Whether it were ſo or no, I cannot tell, but ſo it proved: For they quickly began to fall, and ſo held on that ſummer, till they came to utter ruin. They came home on a ſabbath day, and the pawaw that kneeled upon the deer-ſkin, came home I may ſay without any abuſe as black as the devil. When my maſter came home, he came to me and bid me make a ſhirt for his Papoos, of a holland laced pillowbeer. About that time there came an *Indian* to me, and bid me come to his wigwam at night, and he would give me ſome pork and ground-nuts. Which I did, and as I was eating, another *Indian* ſaid to me, he ſeems to be your good friend, but he killed two *Engliſhmen* at *Sudbury*, and there lie the cloathes behind you; I looked behind me, and there I ſaw bloody cloathes, with bullet-holes in them; yet the Lord ſuffered not this wretch to do me any hurt, yea inſtead of that, he many times refreſh'd me: Five or ſix times did he and his Squaw refreſh my feeble carcaſe. If I went to their wigwam at any time, they would always give me ſomething, and yet they were ſtrangers that I never ſaw before. Another Squaw gave me a piece of freſh pork, and a little ſalt with it, and lent me her frying-pan to fry it; and I cannot but remember what a ſweet, pleaſant and delightful reliſh that bit had to me, to this day. So little do we prize common mercies, when we have them to the full.

The

The twentieth Remove.

IT was their usual manner to remove, when they had done any mischief, lest they should be found out; and so they did at this time. We went about three or four miles, and there they built a great wigwam, big enough to hold an hundred *Indians*, which they did in preparation to a great day of dancing. They would now say among themselves, that the governor would be so angry for his loss at *Sudbury*, that he would send no more about the captives, which made me grieve and tremble. My sister being not far from this place, and hearing that I was here, desired her master to let her come and see me, and he was willing to it, and would come with her; but she being ready first, told him she would go before, and was come within a mile or two of the place: Then he overtook her, and began to rant as if he had been mad, and made her go back again in the rain: So that I never saw her till I saw her in *Charlestown*, but the Lord requited many of their ill doings, for this *Indian* her master, was hanged afterwards at *Boston*. They began now to come from all quarters, against their merry dancing day: Amongst some of them came one good-wife *Kettle*: I told her my heart was so heavy that it was ready to break: So is mine too, said she, but yet I hope we shall hear some good news shortly. I could hear how earnestly my sister desired to see me, and I earnestly desired to see her; yet neither of us could get an opportunity. My daughter was now but a mile off; and I had not seen her for nine or ten weeks, as I had not seen my sister since our first taking. I desired them to let me go and see them, yea I entreated, begged and persuaded them to let me see my daughter; and yet so hard hearted were they, that they would not suffer it. They made use of their tyrannical power whilst they had it, but through the Lord's wonderful mercy, their time was now but short.

On a Sabbath-day, the sun being about an hour high in the afternoon, came Mr. *John Hoar* (the council permitting him, and his own forward spirit inclining him) together with the two forementioned *Indians*, *Tom* and *Peter*, with the third letter from the council. When they came near, I was abroad; they presently called me in, and bid me sit down, and not stir. Then they catched up their guns and away they ran, as if an enemy had been at hand, and the guns went off space. I manifested some great trouble, and asked them what was the matter? I told them I thought they had killed the *Englishman* (for they had in the mean time told me that an *Englishman* was come) they said no; they shot over his horse, and under, and before his horse, and they pushed him this way and that way, at their pleasure, shewing what they

they could do. Then they let him come to their wigwams. I begged of them to let me see the *Englishman*, but they would not; but there was I fain to sit their pleasure. When they had talked their fill with him, they suffered me to go to him. We asked each other of our welfare, and how my husband did and all my friends? He told me they were all well, and would be glad to see me. Among other things which my husband sent me, there came a pound of *tobacco*, which I sold for nine shillings in money: For many of them for want of *tobacco*, smoaked *hemlock* and *ground-ivy*. It was a great mistake in any who thought I sent for *tobacco*, for through the favour of God, that desire was overcome. I now asked them whether I should go home with Mr. *Hoar*? They answered no, one and another of them, and it being late, we lay down with that answer; in the morning Mr. *Hoar* invited the *Saggamores* to dinner; but when we went to get it ready, we found they had stolen the greatest part of the provision Mr. *Hoar* had brought. And we may see the wonderful power of God, in that one passage, in that when there was such a number of them together, and so greedy of a little good food, and no *English* there but Mr. *Hoar* and myself, that there they did not knock us on the head, and take what we had; there being not only some provision, but also trading cloth, a part of the 20 pounds agreed upon: But instead of doing us any mischief, they seemed to be ashamed of the fact, and said it was the *Matchit Indians* that did it. Oh that we could believe that there was nothing too hard for God. God shewed his power over the heathen in this, as he did over the hungry *lions*, when *Daniel* was cast into the *den*. Mr. *Hoar* called them betime to dinner, but they eat but little, they being so busy in dressing themselves and getting ready for their dance; which was carried on by eight of them, four men and four Squaws; my master and mistress being two. He was dressed in his holland shirt, with great stockings, his garters hung round with *shillings*, and had girdles of *wampom* upon his head and shoulders. She had a kersey coat, covered with girdles of *wampom* from the loins upward. Her arms from her elbows to her hands, were covered with bracelets, there were handfuls of necklaces about her neck, and several sorts of jewels in her ears. She had fine red stockings, and white shoes, her hair powdered, and her face painted red, that was always before black. And all the dancers were after the same manner. There were two others singing and knocking on a kettle for their musick. They kept hopping up and down one after another, with a kettle of water in the midst, standing warm upon some *embers*, to drink of when they were dry. They held on till almost night, throwing out *wampom* to the standers-by. At night

I asked them again, if I should go home? they all as one said no, except my husband would come for me. When we were laid down, my master went out of the wigwam, and by and by sent in an *Indian* called *James the printer*, who told Mr. *Hoar*, that my master would let me go home to-morrow, if he would let him have one pint of liquor. Then Mr. *Hoar* called his own *Indians, Tom and Peter*, and bid them all go and see if he would promise it before them three; and if he would he should have it, which he did and had it. *Philip* smelling the business, called me to him, and asked me what I would give him, to tell me some good news, and to speak a good word for me, that I might go home to-morrow? I told him I could not tell what to give him, I would any thing I had, and asked him what he would have? He said two coats, and 20 *shillings* in money, half a bushel of seed corn, and some tobacco. I thanked him for his love, but I knew that good news as well as that crafty fox. My master after he had his drink, quickly came ranting into the *wigwam* again, and called for Mr. *Hoar*, drinking to him and saying he was a good man, and then again he would say, hang him a rogue. Being almost drunk, he would drink to him, and yet presently say he should be hanged. Then he called for me; I trembled to hear him, and yet I was fain to go to him; and he drank to me, shewing no incivility. He was the first *Indian* I saw drunk, all the time I was among them. At last his Squaw ran out, and he after her, round the wigwam, with his money jingling at his knees, but she escaped him; but having an old Squaw, he ran to her, and so through the Lord's mercy, we were no more troubled with him that night. Yet I had not a comfortable night's rest; for I think I can say I did not sleep for three nights together. The night before the letter came from the council, I could not rest, I was so full of fears and troubles; yea, at this time I could not rest night nor day. The next night I was overjoyed, Mr. *Hoar* being come, and that with such good tidings. The third night I was even swallowed up with the thoughts of going home again: and that I must leave my children behind me in the wilderness; so that sleep was now almost departed from mine eyes.

On Tuesday morning they called their *General Court* (as they stiled it) to consult and determine whether I should go home or no. And they all seemingly consented that I should go, except *Philip*, who would not come among them.

But before I go any farther, I would take leave to mention a few remarkable passages of Providence, which I took special notice of in my afflicted time.

1. Of the fair opportunity lost in the long march, a little after the fort fight, when our *English* army was so numerous, and in

purſuit of the enemy, and ſo near as to overtake ſeveral and deſtroy them; and the enemy in ſuch diſtreſs for food, that our men might track them by their rooting the ground for ground-nuts, whilſt they were flying for their lives: I ſay, that then our army ſhould want proviſions, and be obliged to leave their purſuit, and return homeward, and the very next week the enemy came upon our town, like bears bereft of their whelps, or ſo many ravenous wolves, rending us and our lambs to death, But what ſhall I ſay? God ſeemed to leave his people to themſelves, and ordered all things for his own holy ends. *Shall there be evil in the city and the Lord hath not done it? They are not grieved for the affliction of Joſeph, therefore they ſhall go captive, with the firſt that go captive. It is the Lord's doing, and it ſhould be marvellous in our eyes.*

2. I cannot but remember, how the *Indians* deſided the ſlowneſs and the dulneſs of the *Engliſh* army in it's ſetting out. For after the deſolations at *Lancaſter* and *Medfield*, as I went along with them, they aſked me when I thought the *Engliſh* army would come after them? I told them I could not tell. It may be they will come in *May*, ſaid they; thus they did ſcoff at us, as if the *Engliſh* would be a quarter of a year getting ready.

3. Which alſo I have hinted before, when the *Engliſh* army with new ſupplies were ſent forth to purſue after the enemy, and they underſtanding it, fled before them till they came to *Baquaug* river, where they forthwith went over ſafely; that the river ſhould be impaſſable to the *Engliſh*. I cannot but admire to ſee the wonderful providence of God, in preſerving the Heathen for further affliction to our poor country They could go in great numbers over, but the *Engliſh* muſt ſtop: God had an over-ruling hand in all theſe things.

4. It was thought, if their corn were cut down, they would ſtarve and die with hunger; and all that could be found was deſtroyed, and they driven from that little they had in ſtore, into the woods, in the midſt of winter; and yet how to admiration did the Lord preſerve them for his holy ends, and the deſtruction of many ſtill among the *Engliſh!* Strangely did the Lord provide for them, that I did not ſee (all the time I was among them) one man, woman or child die with hunger. Though many times they would eat, that, that a hog or a dog would hardly touch; yet by that God ſtrengthened them to be a ſcourge to his people.

Their chief and commoneſt food was ground nuts, they eat alſo nuts and acorns, artichokes, lilly roots, ground beans, and ſeveral other weeds and roots that I know not.

They would pick up old bones, and cut them in pieces at the joints, and if they were full of worms and maggots, they would ſcald them over the fire, to make the vermine come out, and then

boil

boil them, and drink up the liquor, and then beat the great ends of them in a mortar, and so eat them. They would eat horses guts, and ears, and all sorts of wild birds which they could catch: Also bear, venison, beavers, tortoise, frogs, squirrels, dogs, skunks, rattle-snakes: Yea the very bark of trees; besides all sorts of creatures, and provision which they plundered from the *English*: I can but stand in admiration to see the wonderful power of God, in providing for such a vast number of our enemies in the wilderness, where there was nothing to be seen, but from hand to mouth. Many times in the morning, the generality of them would eat up all they had, and yet have some farther supply against they wanted. But now our perverse and evil carriages in the sight of the Lord, have so offended him, that instead of turning his hand against them, the Lord feeds and nourishes them up to be a scourge to the whole land.

5. Another thing that I would observe is, the strange providence of God in turning things about when the *Indians* were at the highest, and the *English* at the lowest. I was with the enemy eleven weeks and five days, and not one week passed without their fury and some desolation by fire or sword upon one place or other. They mourned for their own losses, yet triumphed and rejoiced in their inhuman and devilish cruelty to the *English*. They would boast much of their victories; saying, that in two hours time, they had destroyed such a captain and his company, in such a place; and such a captain and his company in such a place: And boast how many towns they had destroyed, and then scoff, and say, they had done them a good turn, to send them to heaven so soon. Again they would say, this summer they would knock all the rogues on the head, or drive them into the sea, or make them fly the country; thinking surely, *Agag* like. *The bitterness of death is past*. Now the heathen begin to think all is their own; and the poor christians hopes fail (as to man) and now their eyes are more to God, and their hearts sigh heaven-ward, and they say in good earnest, *Help Lord, or we perish*. When the Lord had brought his people to this, that they saw no help in any thing but himself; then he takes the quarrel into his own hand; and tho' they had made a pit, as deep as hell for the christians that summer, yet the Lord hurled themselves into it. And the Lord had not so many ways before to preserve them, but now he hath as many to destroy them.

But to return again to my going home; where we may see a remarkable change of providence: At first they were all against it, except my husband would come for me; but afterward they assented to it, and seemed to rejoice in it: Some asking me to send them some bread, others some tobacco, others shaking me by the hand,

offering

offering me a hood and scarf to ride in : Not one moving hand or tongue against it. Thus hath the Lord answered my poor desires, and the many earnest requests of others put up unto God for me. In my travels, an *Indian* came to me, and told me, if I were willing he and his Squaw would run away, and go home along with me. I told them no, I was not willing to run away but desired to wait God's time that I might go home quietly, and without fear. And now God hath granted me my desire. O the wonderful power of God that I have seen, and the experiences that I have had : I have been in the midst of those roaring lions, and savage bears, that feared neither God, nor man, nor the devil, by night and day, alone and in company ; sleeping all sorts together, and yet not one of them ever offered the least abuse of unchastity to me, in word or action. Though some are ready to say, I speak it for my own credit ; but I speak it in the presence of God, and to his glory. God's power is as great now, as it was to save *Daniel* in the lion's den, or the three children in the fiery furnace. Especially that I should come away in the midst of so many hundreds of enemies, and not a dog move his tongue. So I took my leave of them, and in coming along, my heart melted into tears, more than all the while I was with them, and I was almost swallowed up with the thoughts that ever I should go home again. About the sun's going down, Mr. *Hoar*, myself, and the two *Indians*, came to *Lancaster*, and a solemn sight it was to me. There had I lived many comfortable years among my relations and neighbours : and now not one christian to be seen, or one house left standing. We went on to a farm house that was yet standing, where we lay all night ; and a comfortable lodging we had, though nothing but straw to lie on The Lord preserved us in safety that night, and raised us up again in the morning, and carried us along, that before noon we came to *Concord*. Now was I full of joy, and yet not without sorrow : Joy, to see such a lovely sight, so many christians together, and some of them my neighbours : There I met with my brother, and my brother in-law, who asked me, if I knew where his wife was ? poor heart ! he had helped to bury her, and knew it not ; she being shot down by the house, was partly burnt, so that those who were at *Boston* at the desolation of the town, came back afterward and buried the dead, did not know her. Yet I was not without sorrow, to think how many were looking and longing, and my own children among the rest, to enjoy that deliverance that I had now received ; and I did not know whether ever I should see them again. Being recruited with food and raiment, we went to *Boston* that day, where I met with my dear husband ; but the thoughts of our dear children, one being dead, and

the

the other we could not tell where, abated our comfort in each other. I was not before so much hem'd in by the mercileſs and cruel heathen, but now as much with pitiful, tender-hearted and compaſſionate chriſtians. In that poor and beggarly condition, I was received in, I was kindly entertained in ſeveral houſes: So much love I received from ſeveral (many of whom I knew not) that I am not capable to declare it. But the Lord knows them all by name; the Lord reward them ſeven fold into their boſoms of his ſpirituals, for their temporals. The twenty pounds, the pirce of my redemption, was raiſed by ſome *Boſton* gentlewomen, and Mr. *Uſher*, whoſe bounty and charity, I would not forget to make mention of. Then Mr. *Thomas Shepard* of *Charleſtown* received us into his houſe, where we continued eleven weeks; and a father and mother they were unto us. And many more tender-hearted friends we met with in that place. We were now in the midſt of love, yet not without much and frequent heavineſs of heart, for our poor children and other relations, who were ſtill in affliction. The week following, after my coming in, the governor and council ſent to the *Indians* again, and that not without ſucceſs; for they brought in my ſiſter, and goodwife *Kettle*. Their not knowing where our children were, was a ſore trial to us ſtill: and yet we were not without ſecret hopes of ſeeing them again. That which was dead lay heavier upon my ſpirits, than thoſe which were alive among the heathen; thinking how it ſuffered with its wounds, and I was not able to relieve it, and how it was buried by the heathen in the wilderneſs from among all chriſtians. We were hurried up and down in our thoughts, ſometimes we ſhould hear a report that they were gone this way and ſometimes that; and that they were come in, in this place or that, we kept inquiring and liſtening to hear concerning them, but no certain news as yet. About this time the council had ordered a day of publick thankſgiving, though I had ſtill cauſe of mourning; and being unſettled in our minds, we thought we would ride eaſtward, to ſee if we could hear any thing concerning our children. As we were riding along between *Ipſwich* and *Rowley*, we met with *William Hubbard*, who told us our ſon *Joſeph*, and my ſiſter's ſon, were come into major *Waldren's*; I aſked him how he knew it? He ſaid the major himſelf told him ſo. So along we went till we came to *Newbury*; and their miniſter being abſent, they deſired my huſband to preach the thankſgiving for them; but he was not willing to ſtay there that night, but he would go over to *Saliſbury*, to hear farther, and come again in the morning, which he did, and preached there that day. At night when he had done, one came and told him that his daughter was come into *Providence*: Here

was

was mercy on both hands. Now we were between them, the one on the east, and the other on the west; our son being neareſt, we went to him firſt, to *Portſmouth*, where we met with him, and with the major alſo: who told us he had done what he could, but could not redeem him under ſeven pounds, which the good people thereabouts were pleaſed to pay. The Lord reward the major, and all the reſt, though unknown to me, for their labour of love. My ſiſter's ſon was redeemed for four pounds, which the council gave order for the payment of. Having now received one of our children, we haſtened toward the other. Going back thro' *Newbury*, my huſband preached there on the Sabbath-day, for which they rewarded him manifold.

On monday we came to *Charleſtown*, where we heard that the governor of *Rhode-Iſland* had ſent over for our daughter, to take care of her, being now within his juriſdiction; which ſhould not paſs without our acknowledgments. But ſhe being nearer *Rehoboth* than *Rhode-Iſland*, Mr. *Newman* went over and took care of her, and brought her to his own houſe. And the goodneſs of God was admirable to us in our low eſtate, in that he raiſed up compaſſionate friends on every ſide, when we had nothing to recompence any for their love. The *Indians* were now gone that way, that it was apprehended dangerous to go to her; but the carts which carried proviſion to the *Engliſh* army, being guarded, brought her with them to *Dorcheſter*, where we received her ſafe; bleſſed be the Lord for it. Her coming in was after this manner: She was travelling one day with the *Indians*, with her baſket at her back; the company of *Indians* were got before her, and gone out of ſight, all except one Squaw: She followed the Squaw till night, and then both of them lay down, having nothing over them but the heavens, nor under them but the earth. Thus ſhe travelled three days together, having nothing to eat or drink but water and green hurtleberries. At laſt they came into *Providence*, where ſhe was kindly entertained by ſeveral of that town. The *Indians* often ſaid, that I ſhould never have her under twenty pounds, but now the Lord hath brought her in upon free coſt, and given her to me the ſecond time. The Lord make us a bleſſing indeed to each other. Thus hath the Lord brought me and mine out of that horrible pit, and hath ſet us in the midſt of tender-hearted and compaſſionate chriſtians. 'Tis the deſire of my ſoul, that we may walk worthy of the mercies received, and which we are receiving.

Our family being now gathered together, the *South* church in *Boſton* hired an houſe for us: Then we removed from Mr. *Shepard*'s (thoſe cordial friends) and went to *Boſton*, where we continued about three quarters of a year; ſtill the Lord went along with us, and provided graciouſly for us. I thought it ſomewhat

ſtrange

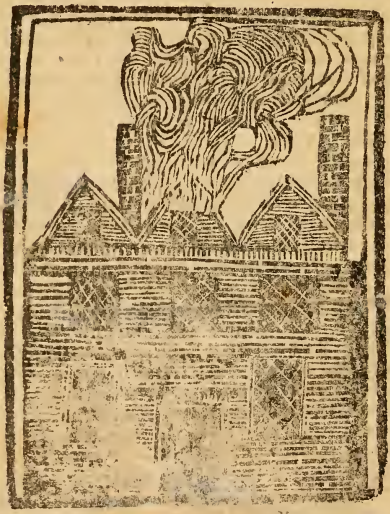
ſtrange to ſet up houſe-keeping with bare walls, but as *Solomon* ſays, *money anſwers all things* : And that we had through the benevolence of chriſtian friends, ſome in this town, and ſome in that, and others ; and ſome from *England*, that in a little time we might look and ſee the houſe furniſhed with love. The Lord hath been exceeding good to us in our low eſtate, in that, when we had neither houſe nor home, nor other neceſſaries, the Lord ſo moved the hearts of theſe and thoſe towards us, that we wanted neither food nor raiment for ourſelves or ours, *Pro.* 18. 24. *There is a friend that ſticketh cloſer than a brother.* And how many ſuch friends have we found, and now living among us ! And truly ſuch a friend have we found him to be unto us, in whoſe houſe we lived, *viz.* Mr. *James Whitcomb*, a friend near hand and far off.

I can remember the time, when I uſed to ſleep quietly without working in my thoughts, whole nights together ; but now it is otherwiſe with me : When all are faſt about me, and no eye open, but his who ever awaketh, my thoughts are upon things paſt, upon the awful diſpenſations of the Lord towards us ; upon his wonderful power and might in carrying of us through ſo many difficulties, in returning us in ſafety, and ſuffering none to hurt us. I remember in the night ſeaſon, how the other day I was in the midſt of thouſands of enemies, and nothing but death before me : It was then hard work to perſuade myſelf, that ever I ſhould be ſatisfied with bread again. But now we are fed with the fineſt of the wheat and (as I may ſay) with *honey out of the rock* : Inſtead of the *huſks* we have the *fat calf* : The thoughts of theſe things in the particulars of them, and of the love and goodneſs of God towards us make it true of me, what *David* ſaid of himſelf, *Pſal.* 6. 6. *I water my couch with my tears.* O the wonderful power of God that mine eyes have ſeen, affording matter enough for my thoughts to run in, that when others are ſleeping mine eyes are weeping.

I have ſeen the extreme vanity of this world : One hour I have been in health, and wealth, wanting nothing, but the next hour in ſickneſs, and wounds, and death, having nothing but ſorrow and affliction. Before I knew what affliction meant I was ready ſometimes to wiſh for it. When I lived in proſperity, having the comforts of this world about me, my relations by me, and my heart cheerful, and taking little care for any thing ; and yet ſeeing many (whom I preferred before myſelf) under many trials and afflictions, in ſickneſs, weakneſs, poverty, loſſes, croſſes, and cares of the world, I ſhould be ſometimes jealous leſt I ſhould have my portion in this life, But now I ſee the Lord had his time to ſcourge and chaſten me. The portion of ſome is to have their affliction by drops, but the *wine of aſtoniſhment*, like a *ſweeping rain, that leaveth no food*, did the Lord prepare to be my portion. Affliction I wanted, and affliction

affliction I had, full measure, pressed down and running over: Yet I see when God calls persons to never so many difficulties, yet he is able to carry them through, and make them say they have been gainers thereby, and I hope I can say, in some measure, as David, *It is good for me that I have been afflicted.* The Lord hath shewed me the vanity of these outward things; that they are the *vanities of vanities, and vexation of spirit.* That they are but a shadow, a blast, a bubble, and things of no continuance. If trouble from smaller matter begin to rise in me, I have something at hand to check myself with, and say, Why am I troubled? It was but the other day, that if I had had the world, I would have given it for my freedom, or to have been a servant to a christian. I have learned to look beyond present and smaller troubles, and to be quieted under them, as *Moses* said, *Exod.* 14. 13. *Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord.*

THE END.



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